



Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs

Vermont Criminal and Juvenile Justice System Data SAS Context, May 2025

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NOTE: This contents of this document are subject to change. This document was drafted for discussion purposes only.



Outline

- Overview Snapshot of all case types
 - 2023 December
 - 2024 December
 - 2025 May 1
- Comparison of
 - 2023 December to May 1, 2025
 - 2024 December to May 1, 2025
- Distribution of Criminal Cases by County as of May 1, 2025
- Distribution of Murder or Manslaughter cases by County as of May 1, 2025
- Year of filing for active cases status dockets
- Arrest Warrants by year the underlying case was filed



Outline

- People with multiple dockets
- Caseload by prosecutor
- Trial Day Usage
 - 1 Year Rolling from May 1, 2025
- Clearance Rates
- Filing Data
- Backlog Snapshot



December 10, 2023 (Pending Cases Snapshot)

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	F&W	Civil Susp.	YO	Juv. Delinq.	CHINS A	CHINS B	CHINS C	CHINS D	Civil Misc.JBA	Ord.	PCR	Grand Total	
Addison	204	527	7	18	31	85	2	166	11	6	4		1	1,062	
Bennington	682	1,190	1	56	32	44	2	85	15	24			15	2,146	
Caledonia	486	1,170	7	82	40	47		87	1	13	6	1	1	1,941	
Chittenden	1,147	2,552	11	79	83	187	29	209	13	21	18	8	1	6	4,364
Essex	114	171	2	3	3	4	1	17			4		3	322	
Franklin	511	1,204	21	61	162	306	9	327	50	43	6		5	2,705	
Grand Isle	35	94	2	4	5	5	3	24	1	5	3	1		182	
Lamoille	280	689	7	50	6	48	3	47	3	11	1		2	1,147	
Orange	175	399	2	22	8	17		26		10	7			666	
Orleans	600	1,149	15	55	18	46	19	74	12	1	10		11	2,010	
Rutland	789	1,705	9	69	26	136	3	169	26	21	4	2	12	2,971	
Washington	498	1,163	9	50	64	169	5	88	4	6	12	6	4	2,078	
Windham	733	1,776	4	53	25	141	1	101	7	6	6		5	2,858	
Windsor	494	983	2	36	13	38	7	64	4	5	8	1	12	1,667	
Grand Total	6,748	14,772	99	638	516	1,273	84	1,484	147	172	89	13	8	76	26,119

26,119 Pending Cases



December 10, 2024 (Pending Cases Snapshot)

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	F&W	Civil Susp.	YO	Juv. Delinq.	CHINS A	CHINS B	CHINS C	CHINS D	Civil Misc	ERPO	JBA	Ord.	PCR	Grand Total
Addison	196	499	2	16	21	28	1	61	1	1	2				1	829
Bennington	616	1,007	1	40	19	72	7	81	10	9	2		3	1	11	1,879
Caledonia	379	987	5	47	25	29	4	51	1	2	4			1	5	1,540
Chittenden	1,059	2,324	4	76	62	137	34	125	9	25	24	1	3		7	3,890
Essex	122	142		3	3	5		7	1		5				3	291
Franklin	486	1,242	19	27	139	294	5	117	14	5	4	1			3	2,356
Grand Isle	30	57	6	1	4	4		12		3						117
Lamoille	249	550	9	38	4	39	1	34	5	9	1				3	942
Orange	167	331	4	18	16	31	1	23	3	7	4		1		3	609
Orleans	466	872	3	28	19	53	22	50	7		2				14	1,536
Rutland	733	1,380	6	42	21	88	3	118	16	18	2	1	1		14	2,443
Washington	547	1,206	8	37	42	139	7	73	6	8	12		2	6	5	2,098
Windham	779	1,855	3	68	8	29	1	78	5	2	7		3		7	2,845
Windsor	519	1,030	2	45	16	52	8	56	2	9	14		1		5	1,759
Grand Total	6,348	13,482	72	486	399	1,000	94	886	80	98	83	3	14	8	81	23,134

23,134 Pending Cases



May 1, 2025 (Pending Cases Snapshot)

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	F&W	Civil Susp.	YO	Juv. Delinq.	CHINS A	CHINS B	CHINS C	CHINS D	Civil Misc	ERPO	JBA	Ord.	PCR	Grand Total
Addison	209	518		14	23	20	3	73	1	7	1		1		1	871
Bennington	522	751	1	28	23	69	4	82	11	22	2				16	1,531
Caledonia	363	886	5	44	18	24	5	50		5	2			1	4	1,407
Chittenden	1,070	2,341	3	71	62	132	28	114	6	20	35	1	7		13	3,903
Essex	120	136	1	3	4	4		9	1	1					3	282
Franklin	477	1,327	17	22	144	289	5	112	13	17	2				4	2,429
Grand Isle	30	48		1	4	8		12		2					1	106
Lamoille	216	490	3	30	3	44	3	34	6	12	2	1			3	847
Orange	172	352	5	21	15	26	1	25	2	5	1		2		2	629
Orleans	402	712	6	15	18	68	24	37	7		1	1			11	1,302
Rutland	706	1,282	3	30	19	82	4	112	12	37	1		1		12	2,301
Washington	560	1,333	8	45	30	152	7	68	7	16	13		2	6	5	2,252
Windham	810	1,887	2	58	6	26	2	64	5	4	10		4		10	2,888
Windsor	520	1,082	1	54	10	50	8	67	3	7	15		2		6	1,825
Grand Total	6,177	13,145	55	436	379	994	94	859	74	155	85	3	19	7	91	22,573

22,573 Pending Cases



December 2023 to May 1, 2025, Changes

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	F&W	Civil Susp.	YO	Juv. Delinq.	CHINS A	CHINS B	CHINS C	CHINS D	Civil Misc JBA	Ord.	PCR	Grand Total	
Addison	5	-9	-7	-4	-8	-65	1	-93	-10	1	-3	1	0	0	-191
Bennington	-160	-439	0	-28	-9	25	2	-3	-4	-2	2	0	0	1	-615
Caledonia	-123	-284	-2	-38	-22	-23	5	-37	-1	-8	-4	-1	0	4	-534
Chittenden	-77	-211	-8	-8	-21	-55	-1	-95	-7	-1	17	-1	-1	7	-461
Essex	6	-35	-1	0	1	0	-1	-8	1	1	-4	0	0	0	-40
Franklin	-34	123	-4	-39	-18	-17	-4	-215	-37	-26	-4	0	0	-1	-276
Grand Isle	-5	-46	-2	-3	-1	3	-3	-12	-1	-3	-3	-1	0	1	-76
Lamoille	-64	-199	-4	-20	-3	-4	0	-13	3	1	1	0	0	1	-300
Orange	-3	-47	3	-1	7	9	1	-1	2	-5	-6	2	0	2	-37
Orleans	-198	-437	-9	-40	0	22	5	-37	-5	-1	-9	0	0	0	-708
Rutland	-83	-423	-6	-39	-7	-54	1	-57	-14	16	-3	-1	0	0	-670
Washington	62	170	-1	-5	-34	-17	2	-20	3	10	1	2	0	1	174
Windham	77	111	-2	5	-19	-115	1	-37	-2	-2	4	4	0	5	30
Windsor	26	99	-1	18	-3	12	1	3	-1	2	7	1	0	-6	158
Grand Total	-571	-1627	-44	-202	-137	-279	10	-625	-73	-17	-4	6	-1	15	-3546

Change in
volume from
December 2024
to May of 2025

-8.99% -12.07% -61.11% -41.56% -34.34% -27.90% 10.64% -70.54% -91.25% -17.35% -4.82% 42.86% -12.50% 18.52% -15.33%

NOTE: Since December of 2023, there has been a 15.33% reduction in the volume of cases in the system – which is 3,546 individual dockets.



December 2024 to May 1, 2025, Changes

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	F&W	Civil Susp.	YO	Juv. Delinq.	CHINS A	CHINS B	CHINS C	CHINS D	Civil Misc	ERPO	JBA	Ord.	PCR	Grand Total	
Addison	13	19		-2	-2	2	-8	2	12	0	6	-1	0	1	0	0	42
Bennington	-94	-256		0	-12	4	-3	-3	1	1	13	0	0	-3	-1	5	-348
Caledonia	-16	-101		0	-3	-7	-5	1	-1	-1	3	-2	0	0	0	-1	-133
Chittenden	11	17		-1	-5	0	-5	-6	-11	-3	-5	11	0	4	0	6	13
Essex	-2	-6		1	0	1	-1	0	2	0	1	-5	0	0	0	0	-9
Franklin	-9	85		-2	-5	5	-5	0	-5	-1	12	-2	-1	0	0	1	73
Grand Isle	0	-9		-6	0	0	4	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-11
Lamoille	-33	-60		-6	-8	-1	5	2	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	-95
Orange	5	21		1	3	-1	-5	0	2	-1	-2	-3	0	1	0	-1	20
Orleans	-64	-160		3	-13	-1	15	2	-13	0	0	-1	1	0	0	-3	-234
Rutland	-27	-98		-3	-12	-2	-6	1	-6	-4	19	-1	-1	0	0	-2	-142
Washington	13	127		0	8	-12	13	0	-5	1	8	1	0	0	0	0	154
Windham	31	32		-1	-10	-2	-3	1	-14	0	2	3	0	1	0	3	43
Windsor	1	52		-1	9	-6	-2	0	11	1	-2	1	0	1	0	1	66
Grand Total	-171	-337		-17	-50	-20	-6	0	-27	-6	57	2	0	5	-1	10	-561

Change in
volume from
December 2024
to May of 2025

-2.69% -2.50% -23.61% -10.29% -5.01% -0.60% 0.00% -3.05% -7.50% 58.16% 2.41% 0.00% 35.71% -12.50% 12.35% -2.43%

NOTE: Since December of 2024, there has been a 2.43% reduction in the volume of cases in the system – which is 561 individual dockets.



Distribution of Criminal-Only Court Cases

May 1, 2025

Row Labels	Felony	Misd.	Civil Susp.	Civil Misc.	F&W	JBA	Ord.	Grand Total
Addison	209	518	14	1		1		743
Bennington	522	751	28	2	1			1304
Caledonia	363	886	44	2	5		1	1301
Chittenden	1070	2341	71	35	3	7		3527
Essex	120	136	3		1			260
Franklin	477	1327	22	2	17			1845
Grand Isle	30	48	1					79
Lamoille	216	490	30	2	3			741
Orange	172	352	21	1	5	2		553
Orleans	402	712	15	1	6			1136
Rutland	706	1282	30	1	3	1		2023
Washington	560	1333	45	13	8	2	6	1967
Windham	810	1887	58	10	2	4		2771
Windsor	520	1082	54	15	1	2		1674
Grand Total	6177	13145	436	85	55	19	7	19924



Pending Homicide Dockets

As of December 10, 2023

	+ 2023	+ 2022	+ 2021	+ 2020	+ 2019	+ 2018	+ 2000	Grand Total
Row Labels								
Chittenden Unit	7	8	2	1	3			21
Bennington Unit	9	6	1					16
Caledonia Unit	5	2	1				1	9
Orleans Unit	2	2	3	1				8
Rutland Unit	2	2	1		1	2		8
Windham Unit	4	1	1					6
Washington Unit	3	3						6
Franklin Unit	1	2		1				4
Windsor Unit	1	1				1		3
Orange Unit	2		1					3
Addison Unit	2	1						3
Lamoille Unit	1	2						3
Grand Total	39	30	10	3	4	3	1	90



Pending Homicide Dockets

As of December 10, 2024

Row Labels	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Grand Total
Chittenden	10	3	6	1	1	2		23
Bennington	3	8	4	1				16
Rutland	4	2	2				2	10
Windham	2	5	1	1				9
Orleans	4	1	1	2				8
Caledonia	2	3	1					6
Franklin	2	2	1		1			6
Windsor	1	1	2				1	5
Lamoille	2	1	2					5
Orange		3		1				4
Washington	2	1						3
Addison	1							1
Grand Total	33	30	20	6	2	2	3	96



117 Pending

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2009	2006	2005	2001	1999	1987	Grand Total
Row Labels															
Addison		3	1	1											5
Bennington		1	7	9	4	1									22
Caledonia			4	2											6
Chittenden		4	9	3	6	1	1	1		1				1	27
Franklin		1	5	2											8
Lamoille			2	1											3
Orange			1			1									2
Orleans			3	1	2										6
Rutland		1	7	2	2							1	1		14
Washington		1	3	2	1		1				1				9
Windham			2	6	1	1									10
Windsor			1	1	1				1					1	5
Grand Total		11	45	30	17	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	117



Pending Homicide Dockets

As of May 1, 2025

Concerning the prosecutor of record, of the 117 pending homicide dockets, as of May 1, 2025, 113 of those 117 are being staffed by SAS Attorneys, meaning **96.6% of the pending homicides are being staffed by SAS.**

It should be noted that Judiciary data only reports the “prosecutor of record.” If an AAG is co-counsel or second chair to an SA or DSA or if an SA or DSA is co-counsel or second chair to an AAG, it will not show up in the data that SAS receives from the Judiciary.



Arrest Warrants

by County and Year of filing (2025-2015)

Row Labels	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Caledonia	24	37	30	20	35	17	7	17	9	11	5
Chittenden	61	147	92	96	50	34	31	21	10	10	1
Essex	4	8	8	8	8	3	1	2	2		
Franklin	39	76	47	30	29	17	12	27	10	5	1
Grand Isle	3	6	8	7		3	4	1			
Lamoille	7	26	28	40	15	20	13	8	3	6	4
Orange	15	52	27	11	12	6	11	2	4	3	
Orleans	22	48	42	38	22	7	11	7	1		1
Rutland	35	103	61	48	44	35	42	26	34	19	5
Washington	42	59	54	41	19	14	8	8	5	5	5
Windham	40	106	101	133	78	95	75	65	42	41	50
Windsor	31	82	101	74	71	68	71	65	34	23	23
Grand Total	371	894	694	610	434	381	330	277	174	141	110

Total 2015-2025 (May 1, 2025) pending arrest warrants = **4,416.**



People with Multiple Dockets

All case status

# people	with ____ or more dockets	representing ____ total dockets	which is ____% of the overall docket
19	20	559	2.81%
43	15	957	4.80%
143	10	2,084	10.46%
662	5	5,288	26.54%
1,715	3	8,810	44.22%
11,079	1	19,924	100.00%

**44.22 % of the pending May 1, 2025 dockets involve people
with *three or more dockets*.**



People with Multiple Dockets Inactive MH Status

(hospitalization, pending comp eval etc.)

# people	with ____ or more dockets	representing ____ total dockets	which is ____% of the overall docket
3	20	159	0.80%
9	10	231	1.16%
20	5	299	1.50%
28	3	91	0.46%



(Top 20) May 2025 SAS Pending Caseload By SAS Prosecutor

Names of individual SAS
prosecutors have been removed.

Felony	Misd.	Civil Susp.	F&W	Civil Misc.	JBA	Ord.	Grand Total
172	430	7					609
193	385	24	3	2			607
164	377	33	4	1			579
196	370	5		2			573
173	353	20	2	3			551
156	366	9	2				533
117	343	1					461
132	302	17	1	8			460
134	299	21			1		455
81	311	24		5	2		423
117	288	8		2			415
83	291	24		3			401
149	235	8	1				393
71	299	21			1		392
81	305		3				389
54	318	12					384
138	239	3	1				381
70	267	22		20			379
57	312	9					378
86	274	2					362

Top 20 SAS Prosecutor Average = **456.25 pending cases each.**



May 2025 SAS Pending Caseload Notes:

- Of the 72 SAS attorneys, the **top 20 SAS Prosecutors with the highest caseloads are handling an average of 456.25 pending cases each.**
- Of the 72 SAS attorneys, 48 SAS attorneys have more than 200 criminal cases as of the May 1, 2025 snapshot.
- Collectively, those 48 prosecutors carry 16,360 criminal cases, **averaging 340.83 per attorney.**
- Those same 48 prosecutors have 4,966 felonies, with an average of **103.46 pending felonies each** (well above noted best practices).



SAS Attorney Caseload Average

May 1, 2025

- 22,573 Pending Cases / 72 SAS Attorneys
- As of May 1, 2025, there were 22,573 pending cases = roughly 315 cases per SAS Attorney, on average.
- **A large majority of SAS attorneys are carrying over 100 pending felonies, on average.**
- A December 2024 survey found that SAS Victim Advocates (VA) were carrying, on average, **600 cases per VA.**

See Northwestern University School of Law. "THE STATE (NEVER) RESTS: HOW EXCESSIVE PROSECUTORIAL CASELOADS HARM CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS." 2011 (emphasis added); see also [Prosecutor Workload Report \(centerforjusticeresearch.org\)](https://centerforjusticeresearch.org/prosecutor-workload-report) ("[P]rosecutors **should not handle more than 150 felonies** or 400 misdemeanors per year." Vermont SAS prosecutors often handle much more on both fronts and handle more than criminal cases (Criminal - Felonies, Fish and Wildlife, and Misdemeanors) (Family-CHINS, Juvenile Delinquencies, YO cases, and ERPOs) (Appeals) (Civil-PCRs). SAS also handles the majority of criminal division appeals and a number of family division appeals.)



Trial Date Utilization (2023-2024)

2023 (Jan. 1 to December 10)

Count of CaseNumber	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Felony	Misdemeanor	Grand Total
Windham Unit	26	11	37
Jury Trial	26	10	36
Bench Trial		1	1
Rutland Unit	16	9	25
Jury Trial	16	9	25
Windsor Unit	15	1	16
Jury Trial	15	1	16
Bennington Unit	11	5	16
Jury Trial	11	3	14
Bench Trial		2	2
Orleans Unit	7	3	10
Jury Trial	7	3	10
Washington Unit	4	5	9
Jury Trial	3	3	6
Bench Trial	1	2	3
Caledonia Unit	7		7
Jury Trial	7		7
Orange Unit		6	6
Jury Trial		6	6
Franklin Unit	3	3	6
Jury Trial	3	2	5
Bench Trial		1	1
Essex Unit	2	3	5
Jury Trial	2	2	4
Bench Trial		1	1
Chittenden Unit		3	3
Jury Trial		3	3
Lamoille Unit		3	3
Jury Trial		3	3
Grand Total	91	52	143

- Trial date usage increased by approximately 65% from 2023 data pull through the 2024 data pull.
- Important caveat – acquittals will be automatically expunged after 60 days. See 13 VSA 7603(e)(1)(A).
- 2023 saw trials in 12 counties.
- 2024 saw trials in every county.

2024 (Jan. 1 to December 10)

Count of CaseNumber	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Felony	Misdemeanor	Grand Total
Windham Unit	27	6	33
Jury Trial	27	6	33
Rutland Unit	14	18	32
Jury Trial	13	15	28
Bench Trial	1	3	4
Essex Unit	15	10	25
Jury Trial	15	10	25
Orleans Unit	20	3	23
Jury Trial	19	1	20
Bench Trial	1	2	3
Chittenden Unit	15	7	22
Jury Trial	15	5	20
Bench Trial		2	2
Washington Unit	11	7	18
Jury Trial	9	7	16
Bench Trial	2		2
Bennington Unit	12	5	17
Jury Trial	10	4	14
Bench Trial	2	1	3
Franklin Unit	12	1	13
Jury Trial	12	1	13
Lamoille Unit	8		8
Jury Trial	8		8
Grand Isle Unit		8	8
Jury Trial		8	8
Orange Unit	5	2	7
Jury Trial	5	2	7
Caledonia Unit		5	5
Jury Trial		5	5
Addison Unit	3	2	5
Jury Trial	3	2	5
Windsor Unit		3	3
Jury Trial		3	3
Grand Total	142	77	219



1 Year Rolling Trial Day Usage

(May 1, 2024 to May 1, 2025)

	Column Labels					
	Felony		Misd.		Total Count of Days	Total % of State
Row Labels	Count of Cases	% of State	Count of Cases	% of State		
Windham Unit	32	23.19%	7	10.77%	39	19.21%
Rutland Unit	12	8.70%	16	24.62%	28	13.79%
Orleans Unit	19	13.77%	3	4.62%	22	10.84%
Bennington Unit	19	13.77%	3	4.62%	22	10.84%
Chittenden Unit	14	10.14%	6	9.23%	20	9.85%
Washington Unit	7	5.07%	5	7.69%	12	5.91%
Franklin Unit	11	7.97%	1	1.54%	12	5.91%
Caledonia Unit	1	0.72%	7	10.77%	8	3.94%
Lamoille Unit	8	5.80%		0.00%	8	3.94%
Grand Isle Unit		0.00%	8	12.31%	8	3.94%
Windsor Unit	2	1.45%	5	7.69%	7	3.45%
Addison Unit	4	2.90%	2	3.08%	6	2.96%
Orange Unit	4	2.90%	2	3.08%	6	2.96%
Essex Unit	5	3.62%		0.00%	5	2.46%
Grand Total	138	100.00%	65	100.00%	203	100.00%



Clearance Rate

- 29 months in the dataset
- On average, about 7 ¼ counties exceed 100% clearance rate each month.

	# of months over 100% Clearance Rate
Addison	12
Bennington	15
Caledonia	15
Chittenden	15
Essex	14
Franklin	10
Grand Isle	16
Lamoille	16
Orange	12
Orleans	21
Rutland	25
Washington	12
Windham	13
Windsor	14



Clearance Rates

(Dec. 2023 - April. 2025, Zoom in for detail)

		# of months over 100% Clearance																													
		Rate	2022 December	2023 January	2023 February	2023 March	2023 April	2023 May	2023 June	2023 July	2023 August	2023 September	2023 October	2023 November	2023 December	2024 January	2024 February	2024 March	2024 April	2024 May	2024 June	2024 July	2024 August	2024 September	2024 October	2024 November	2024 December	2025 January	2025 February	2025 March	2025 April
Addison	12		207%	69%	133%	300%	91%	75%	98%	89%	62%	76%	111%	86%	85%	131%	105%	143%	202%	85%	87%	90%	84%	133%	79%	69%	103%	61%	112%	148%	71%
Bennington	15		59%	97%	132%	62%	92%	111%	65%	95%	88%	88%	128%	101%	130%	95%	129%	139%	128%	126%	98%	97%	77%	91%	144%	150%	100%	134%	217%	132%	108%
Caledonia	15		93%	63%	85%	200%	197%	179%	71%	72%	99%	130%	94%	98%	75%	97%	100%	241%	152%	145%	131%	75%	91%	105%	124%	117%	71%	107%	133%	104%	117%
Chittenden	15		75%	114%	67%	105%	122%	83%	80%	107%	69%	118%	88%	78%	95%	114%	86%	109%	104%	126%	104%	126%	85%	127%	100%	78%	92%	123%	83%	106%	95%
Essex	14		114%	85%	136%	325%	94%	125%	65%	78%	77%	108%	100%	183%	150%	75%	147%	59%	70%	70%	94%	60%	95%	129%	159%	213%	120%	88%	143%	80%	153%
Franklin	10		128%	101%	91%	217%	105%	62%	135%	111%	89%	80%	99%	140%	85%	71%	84%	84%	114%	98%	85%	65%	90%	66%	79%	97%	77%	82%	85%	119%	109%
Grand Isle	16		100%	120%	110%	85%	64%	72%	130%	263%	67%	75%	55%	240%	113%	138%	267%	160%	171%	163%	44%	25%	130%	129%	90%	100%	525%	350%	143%	69%	78%
Lamoille	16		74%	57%	95%	85%	191%	239%	119%	154%	113%	102%	179%	166%	87%	134%	157%	68%	147%	96%	76%	112%	78%	135%	117%	58%	79%	203%	121%	95%	78%
Orange	12		83%	65%	94%	86%	88%	90%	94%	58%	56%	90%	122%	161%	178%	138%	103%	65%	106%	127%	115%	111%	48%	102%	96%	80%	89%	77%	107%	89%	117%
Orleans	21		59%	75%	75%	147%	101%	83%	114%	68%	115%	109%	145%	96%	110%	93%	173%	110%	117%	112%	126%	180%	114%	166%	91%	124%	131%	106%	132%	122%	141%
Rutland	25		142%	108%	106%	114%	153%	117%	109%	105%	138%	160%	115%	123%	136%	133%	145%	122%	123%	111%	121%	96%	78%	123%	113%	157%	95%	92%	135%	115%	106%
Washington	12		124%	147%	122%	114%	83%	107%	91%	64%	109%	97%	98%	87%	90%	115%	107%	96%	103%	121%	129%	93%	85%	63%	91%	71%	62%	74%	75%	113%	76%
Windham	13		124%	101%	112%	275%	117%	104%	64%	92%	93%	97%	108%	119%	93%	99%	113%	73%	105%	73%	89%	88%	130%	77%	92%	120%	81%	90%	88%	117%	90%
Windsor	14		121%	84%	130%	136%	111%	129%	73%	98%	111%	109%	102%	122%	79%	102%	99%	105%	83%	88%	90%	74%	70%	102%	98%	110%	89%	96%	87%	81%	106%



Criminal Filing Data

- The dataset dates back to October 2023
- In 2024, there were 13,801 criminal cases (felonies and misdemeanors) filed.
- 2025, year to date (last day of April), 4,406 felonies and misdemeanors have been filed this year.
- In the same period in 2024, there were 4,443

COUNTY	Total by County	Average monthly
Addison	757	39.84
Bennington	1,841	96.89
Caledonia	954	50.21
Chittenden	4,677	246.16
Essex	152	8.00
Franklin	2,124	111.79
Grand Isle	82	4.32
Lamoille	822	43.26
Orange	626	32.95
Orleans	1,355	71.32
Rutland	2,298	120.95
Washington	2,377	125.11
Windham	2,046	107.68
Windsor	1,402	73.79



Backlog Snapshot March 1, 2023

COUNTY	Under dispo guidelines	Near dispo guideline *	Over dispo guideline	N/A**	Total Pending (per judiciary)	% over dispo	Ranked % over disposition guidelines
Addison	111	22	194	111	438	44%	2
Bennington	267	89	955	295	1,606	59%	8
Caledonia	195	45	1,067	291	1,598	67%	13
Chittenden	838	227	1,521	577	2,893	48%	5
Essex	26	8	164	70	268	61%	10
Franklin	301	72	475	356	1,204	39%	1
Grand Isle	20	5	70	21	116	60%	9
Lamoille	202	51	775	134	1,162	67%	12
Orange	105	17	198	102	422	47%	4
Orleans	226	72	1,308	221	1,827	72%	14
Rutland	378	119	1,747	446	2,690	65%	11
Washington	296	72	689	477	1,534	45%	3
Windham	262	87	922	459	1,732	53%	7
Windsor	252	57	583	320	1,212	48%	6
Total	3479	943	10668	3880	18702	56%	



Backlog Snapshot May 1, 2025

COUNTY	Under dispo guidelines	Near dispo guideline *	Over dispo guideline	N/A**	Total Pending (per judiciary)	% over dispo	Ranked % over disposition guidelines
Addison	262	43	61	29	395	15.44%	1
Bennington	389	64	232	135	820	28.29%	6
Caledonia	293	48	440	124	905	48.62%	13
Chittenden	1,517	200	671	235	2,623	25.58%	5
Essex	79	14	65	24	182	35.71%	11
Franklin	837	104	266	105	1312	20.27%	2
Grand Isle	17	14	13	0	44	29.55%	7
Lamoille	243	28	105	92	468	22.44%	3
Orange	189	35	121	26	371	32.61%	9
Orleans	301	60	460	73	894	51.45%	14
Rutland	664	90	456	129	1339	34.06%	10
Washington	862	117	358	200	1537	23.29%	4
Windham	632	105	591	145	1473	40.12%	12
Windsor	465	50	279	132	926	30.13%	8
Total	6,750	972	4,118	1,449	13,289	30.99%	



Backlog Snapshot Comparison

COUNTY	Under dispo guidelines	Near dispo guideline *	Over dispo guideline	N/A**	Total Pending (per judiciary)	Total pending (per math)	Total percent change in case volume from 3-1-23 to 05-1-25	Ranked total change in volume	Percent change in over Disposition guidelines cases from 3-1-23 to 05-1-25	Ranked change in over disposition cases based on percentage reduction
Addison	151	21	-133	-82	-43	-43	-10%	12	-69%	5
Bennington	122	-25	-723	-160	-786	-786	-49%	5	-76%	3
Caledonia	98	3	-627	-167	-693	-693	-43%	6	-59%	8
Chittenden	679	-27	-850	-342	-270	-540	-17%	9	-56%	9
Essex	53	6	-99	-46	-86	-86	-32%	7	-60%	7
Franklin	536	32	-209	-251	108	108	9%	14	-44%	12
Grand Isle	-3	9	-57	-21	-72	-72	-62%	1	-81%	2
Lamoille	41	-23	-670	-42	-694	-694	-60%	2	-86%	1
Orange	84	18	-77	-76	-51	-51	-12%	11	-39%	13
Orleans	75	-12	-848	-148	-933	-933	-51%	3	-65%	6
Rutland	286	-29	-1291	-317	-1351	-1351	-50%	4	-74%	4
Washington	566	45	-331	-277	3	3	0%	13	-48%	11
Windham	370	18	-331	-314	-259	-257	-15%	10	-36%	14
Windsor	213	-7	-304	-188	-286	-286	-24%	8	-52%	10



Relevant Definitions / Notes

- Charge: a charge is each allegation of the commission of a crime. Crimes are categorized at the most general level as felonies and misdemeanors.
- Felony: a crime punishable by two or more years in jail.
- Misdemeanor: A crime punishable by less than two years in jail.
- Docket or docket number: The court assigns a docket number to every case filed. A case can include a single charge or multiple charges.
- Assigned Prosecutor: The judiciary dataset only includes the lead prosecutor. If the SAO and AGO both have attorneys prosecuting a case, only the lead attorney will be displayed in the data.
- NOTE: Pending “criminal” data does not include cases in the Family Division (*CHINS, ERPOS, Juvenile Delinquency, Youthful Offender*) or the Civil Division (e.g., *PCRs*), assigned to SAS ATTYS. Pending criminal data also does not include appeals or investigation-related workload. As such, a better metric of workload must include “all” case types, including “family” and “civil” cases currently pending.
- SAS believes that the best metric for the current workload and caseload is the number of “pending” cases – rather than the differentiation between “active” and “inactive.”
- Active: While the judiciary does not offer a specific definition, an active case is one that is on a “routine” path towards trial disposition and, if a conviction occurs, towards sentencing: Post-arraignment cases; Active Pre-Trial and Ready for Trial; Active Under Advisement; Active Ready for Sentence.
- Inactive: “Inactive” is a misnomer because it includes any status that is something other than an active case. It could include:
 - Cases in treatment court.
 - Cases pending a court-ordered evaluation for competence to stand trial.
 - Cases with an order of hospitalization (following a determination the defendant is not competent to stand trial or was not guilty by reason of insanity) or order of non-hospitalization.
 - Cases on arrest warrant status.
 - Diversion / Tamarack Cases that are pending.
 - VOPs (Probation Cases).
 - Arrest Warrants. ARREST WARRANTS.
 - Pre-arraignment (docketed but not yet arraigned).
 - Other post-judgment cases still being litigated.



Relevant Definitions

- Clearance Rate: Measurement of cases resolved against cases filed. (e.g., in a month where 100 cases are filed, resolving 100 cases would result in a 100% clearance rate.)



Judicial Dispositional Guidelines

Criminal Case Disposition Guidelines

- a. Misdemeanors
 - Track I (standard track): 120 days
 - Track II (complex track): 180 days
 - b. Felonies and Other Misdemeanors:
 - Track I (standard track): 180 days
 - Track II (complex track): 365 days
 - Track III (super complex track): 455 days
- Administrative Directive 24, dated November 23, 2010, provided guidelines for case disposition but not definitive deadlines or an actionable date for bringing of the case to trial.
 - The guideline ranges themselves are, however, largely aspirational – assuming disposition of misdemeanors in 120-days and complex felonies within 15-months. The Supreme Court may be interested in revising this, in lieu of a legislative solution – and appears to have authority to do so.



STATE OF VERMONT
VERMONT SUPREME COURT
DECEMBER TERM, 2024

Order Abrogating Administrative Order No. 5

PROMPT DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL CASES

Pursuant to the Vermont Constitution, Chapter II, § 30, it is hereby ordered:

1. That Administrative Order No. 5, promulgated January 10, 1972, and subsequently amended, be abrogated.

Reporter's Notes—2024 Amendment

Administrative Order No. 5 is abrogated in its entirety.

This order was promulgated in 1972 to promote the prompt and efficient disposition of criminal causes. The order established priorities for scheduling of criminal cases and set time periods within which a trial should proceed depending on whether a defendant was in custody and absent exceptional circumstances. The time frames are discretionary, however, and do not bind trial courts or entitle defendants to dismissal for noncompliance. See State v. Snide, 144 Vt. 436, 441, 479 A.2d 139, 143 (1984) (explaining that A.O. 5 “is entirely discretionary, and it is for the trial court to determine, in each case, whether dismissal shall result”). Moreover, the time frames are not realistic, particularly for complex felony cases. State v. Reynolds, 2014 VT 16, ¶ 13, 196 Vt. 113, 95 A.3d 973 (explaining that A.O. 5 “proved to set impossibly short deadlines for the pretrial preparation of serious felony cases”).

In addition, the time periods are confusing in that they conflict with the disposition guidelines for criminal cases, which are separately established in Administrative Directive 24. Therefore, A.O. 5 is abrogated.

2. That this Order be effective immediately. The Reporter's Notes are advisory.

3. That the Chief Justice is authorized to report these amendments to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of 12 V.S.A. § 1, as amended.

Dated in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont, this 16th day of December, 2024.

Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice

Harold E. Eaton, Jr., Associate Justice

Karen R. Carroll, Associate Justice



Signed by the Vermont Supreme Court

Reporter's Notes—2024 Amendment

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